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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Sharon Mi Lyn Tan  
Serial No. : 10/690,436  
Filed : October 22, 2003  
Title : CATHETER WITH A SIDEARM FOR DELIVERY OF ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS TO PREVENT INFECTION

Art Unit : 3763  
Examiner : LoAn H. Thanh  
Conf. No. : 3696

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF JUNE 5, 2006

In reply to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2006, Applicant requests consideration of the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,371,944 ("Liu") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,588,443 ("Davidson"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,413,561 ("Fischell"). In particular, the Examiner stated "Liu [] disclose[s] a system for use in the body comprising a catheter 7 [having] a side arm [and] a lumen through the side arm 9 ...." (Office Action at 2.) But, rather than being a catheter, Liu's element 7 is a needle. (See, e.g., Liu col. 2, lines 47-50.) As one skilled in the art would understand, a needle of the type disclosed by Liu is not a catheter. Indeed, when characterizing the manner in which a catheter is commonly disposed within a blood vessel:

A guide wire is passed through a needle which has been inserted into the blood vessel. A catheter is then threaded on the guide wire into the blood vessel. (Id. col. 1, lines 26-29.)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

August 22, 2006  
Date of Deposit

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